

Docket No. 520.43239X00
Serial No.10/702,548
Office Action dated September 21, 2007

REMARKS

I. Introduction

By the present Amendment, claims 1, 10, 13, and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-4, 7-9, and 12 have been cancelled. Claims 16-20 are newly presented for consideration. Accordingly, Claims 5, 10, 13, and 15-20 are now pending in the application.

II. Office Action Summary

In the Office Action of September 21, 2007, claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 12, and 15 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Publication No. JP 11-007722 to Yoshiaki et al. ("Yoshiaki"). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshiaki in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,580,647 issued to Yokota et al. ("Yokota"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner's indication that claims 5, 10, and 13 would be allowable, if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is noted with appreciation.

III. Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 12, and 15 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshiaki. Regarding this rejection, the Office Action alleges that Yoshiaki discloses all of the features recited in the claimed invention.

By the present Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 3, 7, 8, and 12, thereby rendering part of this ground of rejection moot.

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Applicants have also amended independent claim 15 to define a reproducing apparatus for reproducing information stored on a recording medium. The information comprises:

- recording medium identifier information for identifying the recording medium;

- a first content;

- a second content;

- wherein both the first content and the second content are audio visual information, and wherein the recording medium identifier information includes an ID unique to the recording medium; and

- a program which controls the reproducing apparatus to execute the steps of:

- reading out the recording medium identifier information stored in the reproducing apparatus; and

- reproducing the second content when the recording medium identifier information read out from the memory satisfies a predetermined requirement,

- wherein the predetermined requirement includes a number of the recording medium identifier information sets, read out from the memory, that are required to reproduce the second content.

According to at least one feature of independent claim 15, the predetermined requirement includes a number of the recording medium identifier information sets that are read out from the memory in order to reproduce the second content. The Office Action had previously indicated that such a feature was not shown or suggested by the art of record.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that independent claim 15 is allowable over the art of record.

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IV. Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshiaki in view of Yokota.

By the present Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claim 2, thereby rendering this particular ground of rejection moot.

V. Allowable Subject Matter

By the present Amendment, Applicants have revised claims 5, 10, and 13 to place them in independent form, as suggested in the Office Action.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that independent claims 5, 10, and 13 are allowable over the art of record.

Claims 16-20 are newly presented and correspond to claims 2-4, 8, and 9, respectively. These claims also depend from independent claims 5 or 10. Accordingly, claims 16-20 are believed to be allowable over the art of record.

VI. Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is believed in order, and courteously solicited.


If the Examiner believes that there are any matters which can be resolved by way of either a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

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AUTHORIZATION

Applicants request any shortage or excess in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, and for which no other form of payment is offered, be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 520.43239X00).

Respectfully submitted,
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